

**CONGRESSMAN SHERWOOD BOEHLERT (R-NY)**  
**OPENING STATEMENT FOR MARK-UP**  
**March 17, 2005**

I want to welcome everyone here for our St. Patrick's Day mark-up. I hope that the mark-up will leave everyone seeing green – not because we're spending lots of money, but because we're environmentally friendly and because others should be green with envy over the ability of this Committee to move sensible, bipartisan legislation.

The bills before us today deal with a wide variety of critical problems, including the need to improve our energy efficiency, the need to improve our technological competitiveness, the need to improve our environment, the need to protect our citizens from the impacts of drug abuse, the need to have a more diverse scientific workforce, and the need to increase interest in science among the general public.

All these bills have broad support. Four of them passed the House last year – the Pete Conrad Astronomy Awards, the Steel and Aluminum energy Conservation Act, the High Performance Computing Revitalization Act, and the Green Chemistry Research and Development Act. The Senate ran out of time to take these bills up – they were still pending without prejudice when the clock ran out – and we're optimistic about moving them through the entire process this Congress.

The other two items before us should also move swiftly, the resolution recognizing African American women in science, and the Methamphetamine Remediation Research Act, which we held a hearing on earlier this month.

I want to move this mark-up along, so let me just close by thanking all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who introduced and contributed to these important bills. Mr. Gordon.